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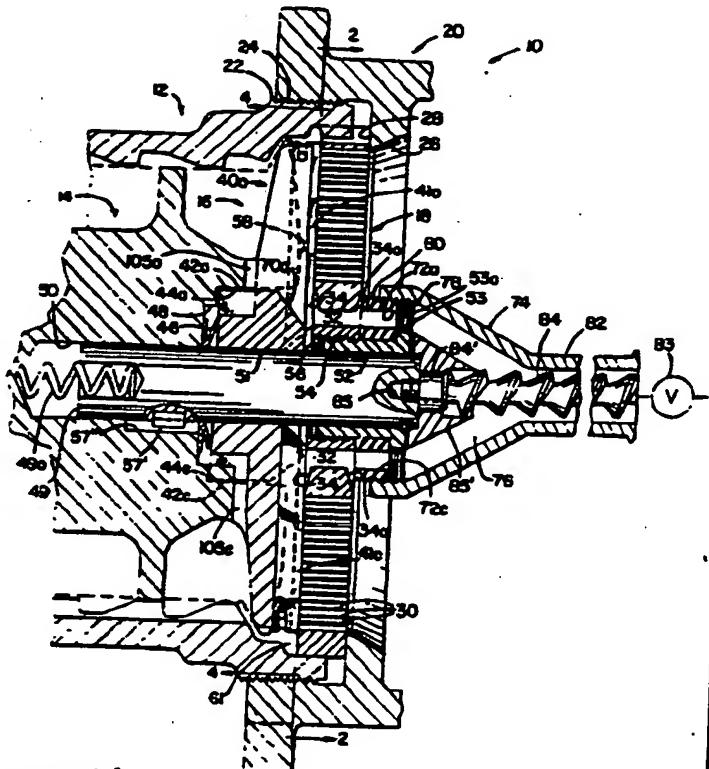
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(54) Title: HARD MATERIAL COLLECTING SYSTEM FOR A MEAT GRINDER

(57) Abstract

An arrangement for discharging hard material from the grinding head (10) of a meat grinder. The hard material is passed through openings (32) formed in the meat grinder orifice plate (18), and collected in a collection cavity (76) defined by a cup member (74). A hard material discharge auger (84) is located within the collection cavity (76), and is rotatable with the feed screw (14) of the grinder. A restricting arrangement is provided for building up back pressure within the collection cavity (76), which minimizes the amount of usable soft material which passes into the collection cavity (76). In one form, the discharge auger (84) extends through the collection cavity (76) and into a discharge passage defined by a discharge tube (82). The auger (84) has an outside diameter only slightly smaller than the diameter of the passage, so that the auger (84) essentially defines a rotating flow path through which the hard material is discharged.



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